Filed 07/01/2008

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07 CV 2205 DMS (CAB)

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INTRODUCTION

The undersigned, on June 20, 2008, began seeking a stipulation with Miles Scully, Esq., lead defense counsel, to effect an extension of dates to designate experts. Mr. Scully has recently indicated Defendant has "no interest in changing the dates". Thus this *ex parte* application.

NO PRIOR REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE OR EXTENSION

There has been no prior request for a continuance or extension of any date set forth in the Case Management Conference Order dated March 19, 2008.

REASONS

Plaintiff could not meet the June 17th deadline for two main reasons. (Please *see* attached AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS R. GILL, ESQ., IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S EX PARTE APPLICATION TO CONTINUE EXPERT DESIGNATION AND RELATED DATES, which is here incorporated by reference as though set forth in full.)

The parties' counsel have discussed and agreed a central issue in this matter is whether or not Plaintiff was able, based upon his medical condition, to perform the essential functions of his position at the time of his termination, March 10, 2006. The determination of this question necessarily involves a forensic medical expert capable of making such an assessment.

No prejudice has been indicated nor does the undersigned foresee any prejudice that could accrue to Defendant should the expert designation date be extended.

Exclusion of expert testimony as a sanction for a violation of a discovery order rests in the Court's sound discretion. The Court is required to consider: (1) the *explanation*, if any, for the party's failure to comply with the discovery order; (2) the *prejudice* to the opposing party of allowing the witnesses to testify; (3) the *possibility of curing such prejudice by granting a continuance*; and (4) the importance of the witness' testimony. (emphasis original) [*Barret v. Atlantic Richfield Co.* (5th Cir. 1996) 95 F3d 375, 380] *See* Schwarzer, Tashima & Wagstaffe, CAL. PRAC. GUIDE: FED. CIV. PRO. BEFORE TRIAL, at 11:453 (The Rutter Group 2006).

1	This application is based on the AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS R. GILL, ESQ., filed	
2	concurrently herewith, on the papers and records on file herein, and on such oral and documentary	
3	evidence as may be presented at the hearing, if any, on the application.	
4		
5		Respectfully submitted,
6		THE GILL GROUP, A.P.C.
7	Dated: July 1, 2008 By:	s/ Thomas R. Gill, Esq.
8		THOMAS R. GILL, ESQ. Attorney for Plaintiff
9		GLEN R. HAGEN CARMEN J. HAGEN, Guardian <i>ad litem</i>
10		Email: trgill@gillgroupapc.com
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